Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 USIA-15 SS-15 AID-20 /065 R

DRAFTED BY CU/AF-WPO'BRIENFF 7/30/73 EXT 28055 APPROVED BY CU-JRICHARDSON CU/AF-WEDMONDSON AF/C-APALMER

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R 302303Z JUL 73 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 149768

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:OEXC, PFOR, US, MA

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER RATSIRAKA CALL ON ASSISTANT

SECRETARY RICHARDSON

- 1. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF RATSIRAKA-RICHARDSON MEETING IN DEPARTMENT JULY 25. DETAILS FORWARDED BY MEMCON. DR. RATSIMANDRESY AND AMBASSADOR RAHARIJAONA ACCOMPANIED RATSIRAKA. ON US SIDE WERE EDMONDSON AND O'BRIEN OF CU/AF AND COHEN OF AF/C.
- 2. RATSIRAKA PRESENTED ARGUMENT FOR FOREIGN TRAINING OF MALAGASY YOUNG PEOPLE IN VARIETY FIELDS. SINGLED OUT US AS MOST APPROPRIATE FOR TRAINING IN MARINE ENGINEERING, MANAGEMENT, AND TECHNICAL SKILLS. REQUESTED AT LEAST FIVE SCHOLARSHIPS AT UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL. EMPHASIS GIVEN UNDERGRADUATE-LEVEL TRAINING SINCE TO DATE FRENCH-DOMINATED UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HAS PRODUCED SMALL ELITE WITH FEW MARKET-ABLE SKILLS. RATSIRAKA STATED GOMR NOT INTERESTED FOREIGNERS GOING TO MADAGASCAR TO TEACH OR TRAIN MALAGASY. YOUTHS TRAINED ABROAD COULD PASS ON THEIR SKILLS OTHER MALAGASY.
- 3. RICHARDSON REPLIED BY DELINEATING SCOPE, OBJECTIVES AND CONFIDENTIAL

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BUDGETARY LIMITATIONS CU EXCHANGE PROGRAM. POINTED OUT

CU OFFERED SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES, ALTHOUGH CU INTERESTED IN MANAGEMENT, AND THAT SCHOLARSHIPS GIVEN ONLY AT GRADUATE LEVEL. RICHARDSON REMARKED THAT FIELDS RATSIRAKA PROPOSED FOR SCHOLARSHIPS WERE PRIMARILY AID ORIENTED AND SUGGESTED AFGRAD AND INTERAF PROGRAMS AS BEING MORE APPROPRIATE. SUGGESTED RATSIRAKA SHOULD DISCUSS WITH AID DONALD BROWN SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE THESE PROGRAMS (SUBJECT SEPTEL). RICHARDSON CONCLUDED REMARKS BY OFFERING RATSIRAKA TWO OR THREE SCHOLARSHIPS IN CURELATED FIELDS.

4. COMMENTS: VIEW COMR'S LACK INTEREST FOREIGNERS TEACHING MADAGASCAR, POST MAY WISH RECONSIDER FY-74 CPP REQUEST FOR US PROFESSOR FOR UNIVERSITY. ALSO GIVEN CU'S PREFERENCES POST SHOULD REVIEW ITS TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROPOSALS. ROGERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: VOCATIONAL TRAINING, FOREIGN STUDENT EXCHANGE, MINISTERIAL VISITS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 30 JUL 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: worrelsw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE149768

Document Number: 1973STATE149768
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WPO'BRIENFF

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS BRIENFF

Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973074/aaaaacro.tel Line Count: 80

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ORIGIN CU

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a

Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: worrelsw

Review Content Flags: Review Date: 09 JAN 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <28 FEB 2002 by worrelsw>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: FOREIGN MINISTER RATSIRAKA CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY RICHARDSON

TAGS: OEXC, PFOR, US, MA, (RATSIRAKA), (RICHARDSON, JOHN J)

To: TANANARIVE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005